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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**Declaration  
Submitted  
With Initial  
Filing

OR

Declaration  
Submitted after Initial  
Filing (surcharge  
(37 CFR 1.16 (e))  
required)

Attorney Docket Number

First Named Inventor

Yoshitaka Asou

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number

Filing Date

February 20, 2004

Art Unit

Examiner Name

**I hereby declare that:**

Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name.

I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**BLACK HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM-FREE PLATING TREATMENT SYSTEM***(Title of the Invention)*

the specification of which



is attached hereto

OR



was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number

and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)

(if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				Yes	No
P2003-54221	JAPAN	02/28/2003	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number: <input type="text"/>				OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below	
Name Naoki Nishimura					
Address NITTO SEIKO CO., LTD. Intellectual Property Section 20 Umegahata, Inokura-cho, Ayabe, Kyoto, 623-0054, JAPAN					
City Ayabe		State Kyoto		ZIP 623-0054	
Country JAPAN		Telephone 81-773-42-4402		Fax 81-773-42-6804	
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.					
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Yoshitaka				Family Name or Surname Asou	
Inventor's Signature <i>Asou Yoshitaka</i>				Date February 4, 2004	
Residence: City Ayabe		State Kyoto		Country JAPAN	
				Citizenship JAPAN	
Mailing Address NITTO SEIKO CO., LTD. Fastener Division 20 Umegahata, Inokura-cho, Ayabe, Kyoto, 623-0054, JAPAN					
City Ayabe		State Kyoto		ZIP 623-0054	
				Country JAPAN	
NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Yasuhiro				Family Name or Surname Shikata	
Inventor's Signature <i>Shikata Yasuhiro</i>				Date February 4, 2004	
Residence: City Ayabe		State Kyoto		Country JAPAN	
				Citizenship JAPAN	
Mailing Address NITTO SEIKO CO., LTD. Fastener Division 20 Umegahata, Inokura-cho, Ayabe, Kyoto, 623-0054, JAPAN					
City Ayabe		State Kyoto		ZIP 623-0054	
				Country JAPAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors or a legal representative are being named on the <u>1</u> supplemental sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A or 02LR attached hereto.					

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**DECLARATION****ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)**  
Supplemental SheetPage 1 of 1

<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Toshio		Shikata	
Inventor's Signature <i>Shikata Toshio</i>		Date February 4, 2004	
Residence: City	Ayabe	State	Kyoto
Country	JAPAN	Citizenship	JAPAN
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Mailing Address 20 Umegahata, Inokura-cho, Ayabe, Kyoto, 623-0054, JAPAN			
City	Ayabe	State	Kyoto
Zip	623-0054	Country	JAPAN
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Ryuichi		Fujiwara	
Inventor's Signature <i>Ryuichi Fujiwara</i>		Date February 4, 2004	
Residence: City	Ayabe	State	Kyoto
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Mailing Address NITTO SEIKO CO., LTD. Fastener Division			
Mailing Address 20 Umegahata, Inokura-cho, Ayabe, Kyoto, 623-0054, JAPAN			
City	Ayabe	State	Kyoto
Zip	623-0054	Country	JAPAN
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City		State	
Country		Citizenship	
Mailing Address			
Mailing Address			
City		State	
Zip		Country	

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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)**Applicant/Patent Owner: Yoshitaka Asou, Yasuhiro Shikata, Toshio Shikata, Ryuichi FujiwaraApplication No./Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Filed/Issue Date: February 20, 2004Entitled: BLACK HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM-FREE PLATING TREATMENT SYSTEM

\_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.

The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is \_\_\_\_\_ %

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.**OR**B. ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

2. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

3. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.☐ Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

February 20, 2004

Date

81-773-42-3111

Telephone number

Tatsufumi Yura

Typed or printed name

Tatsufumi Yura.

Signature

President

Title

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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